



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 10, 2003

For Information Contact Public Affairs
PATRICK SCHNEIDER
Telephone: (602) 514-7547
Pager: (602) 356-0207

CAR SALESMEN CHARGED WITH MISUSING A CUSTOMER'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

PHOENIX, ARIZONA -- The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona announced that on March 7, 2003, a criminal complaint was filed against ANTHONY COLE MATTHEWS, dob 12/31/63, of Phoenix, Arizona, for misusing the Social Security account numbers of other individuals.

The affidavit of probable cause supporting the complaint alleges that MATTHEWS was employed at a Scottsdale car dealership when he misappropriated and used the Social Security account number of an individual who had purchased a car from the Tucson office of the same dealership. According to the complaint, MATTHEWS used that individual's Social Security

(MORE)

number as his own when purchasing a used BMW 328 I for approximately \$28,000. MATTHEWS used another individual's Social Security number as his own, according to the complaint, when leasing a townhouse and applying for employment at the car dealership.

The criminal complaint charges MATTHEWS with violating Title 42 of the United States Code, Section 408(a)(7)(B).

A conviction for that offense carries a maximum penalty of five year(s), a \$250,000 fine or both.

A complaint is simply the method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and raises no inference of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until competent evidence is presented to a jury that establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The investigation preceding the complaint was conducted by the United States Secret Service and the Office of the Inspector General, Social Security Administration.

The prosecution is being handled by Daniel R. Drake, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix, Arizona.

CASE NUMBER:

(MORE)

RELEASE NUMBER: 2003-030

#